

The Daily Freeman.

EVENING EDITION.

The Freeman.
With his hand upon his charter,
And his foot upon the soil,
He will stand—er die a martyr
For his Freedom and his God.

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J. W. WHEELLOCK, Printer.

MONTPELIER, VT.
MONDAY, OCT. 7, 1861.

HAVING CHOSEN OUR CAUSE WITHOUT GUILE
AND WITH PURE MOTIVES, LET US RENEW OUR
TRUST IN GOD AND GO FORWARD WITHOUT FEAR
AND WITH MANLY HEARTS.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

Has Slavery any Special Immunity?

Since the President's letter to Fremont modifying the latter's proclamation confiscating the property of rebels who were active in their efforts to overthrow our Government, many papers and especially those who used to be friendly to the South and hostile to the principles of the Republicans, are pressing with new zeal the constitutional argument against the emancipation of the slave property of rebels, and reiterating the old reasons against infringing upon the peculiar right of African Slavery to remain untouched upon this Continent by any act of our Government or our Army during the present war. No matter how terrible may be the evils which may visit the North through the continuance of the rebellion, and no matter how apparent it may be that an announcement by those in authority that the slaves of traitors are, as far as Federal laws is concerned, free men, would strike a more fatal blow at the heart of treason than any other single announcement the Government could make, still we hear the old cant about not meddling with Slavery. Some of this comes from timidity, some of it from an adherence to the partisan friendship for slavery that has characterized a portion of the North for years, some of it from a desire to build up an organization either political, or of some other kind that shall control the elections, and some of it from an honest belief that slavery is such an exceedingly sacred and peculiar institution, that it must not only not be attacked but it must not be suffered to come to any harm in the process of putting down rebellion. So far as this opinion is honestly entertained, it deserves respectful attention, and to such persons arguments may be properly enough addressed.

Slavery, as an institution, has no guaranties in the Constitution, that instrument only authorizing the recovery of fugitives from labor who have escaped from their masters. In all other respects as far as the Constitution is concerned, the owners of slaves have no rights not equally enjoyed by the owners of horses or cattle, or any other article generally recognized as property. And the insertion of the clause respecting fugitives from labor in the original compact was not at all intended as an acknowledgment on the part of the framers of it, that property in slaves was of a more sacred nature than property in cattle, but it is rather an evidence that slave property was of such a peculiar nature, both as to its liability to escape, and in its non-recognition as property except by local laws, that some action was necessary in order to put it as nearly as possible on an equality with other chattel rights. Then so far as strict constitutional right is in question, Congress, the President, or any military commander, has precisely as much authority to confiscate the slaves of a rebel as they have to confiscate his bales of cotton, and we hardly think anybody who sincerely desires to see the Government vigorously prosecute the war in which it is now involved, is so tender towards traitors as to desire that all the property of rebels should be exempt from forfeiture.

But when the argument from the Constitution is answered, we are confronted with another objection, and are told that it would divide and distract the North if the Government should attempt to weaken the rebels by confiscating their slave property. We don't believe this is true. On the contrary we believe that had President Lincoln cordially approved Fremont's proclamation in Missouri, and shown an unflinching determination to strike rebellion where the blow would be most severely felt, he would not only have had the loyal men of the North heartily and more courageously than ever with him, but he would not thereby have lost in any State a single soul who was not at heart a rebel. There may be a few men at the North who have yet such a tenderness and love for the peculiar institution, that they would not make war upon a rebel if it became necessary in order to prosecute it vigorously to free his slaves, but we believe this number had grown small and quiet until they received comfort and strength from the action of the Government.

It is the manner of the warriors of barbarous, and of some civilized nations, when they have succeeded in some raid upon their enemies, and have been so fortunate as to capture prisoners, to expose these prisoners between themselves and their pursuers, as a protection from the bullets of their enemies. This is generally successful, as the enemy must be very cautious that will direct a bullet through the heart of a friend, that it may also reach the heart of a foe. And

no doubt a remnant of the old allies of the Slave Power, scattered here and there through the North, have yet so much of their old love for the system which has helped them in times past, that they would hesitate a great while about sending a blow home to the heart of rebellion if they supposed that in order to do it, they must destroy also the life of their former friend and brother, the Slave Power. The slaveholders, who are the life and strength and all there is of rebellion, have only to interpose their system between themselves and the attacks of these so-called loyal men, and they at once throw up the muzzles of their guns, and let rebellion succeed rather than bring Slavery to harm. But the few who are influenced by such considerations are of little account, and if the Government should pursue a straightforward course, showing Slavery no mercy and no favors, they would soon sink into utter insignificance.

There are others, and unquestionably a large and respectable number of the loyal men of the Country, who are apprehensive of the bad effect of such a policy as Fremont inaugurated upon the loyal slaveholders in Missouri, Kentucky, Maryland, and even among the seceded States. But why should they have such apprehensions? The Pathfinder's proclamation only confiscated the Slave property of Rebels—of those who were actively aiding the rebellion. It did not affect the Slaves of loyal men, or even of neutral men, if there can be such a man. And is it too severe a punishment to take from a Rebel his property? And because the Government adopts a policy so rigorous as that, is there danger that loyal men will turn Rebels? If there is such danger, we submit that the loyalty that is so near akin to treason, is not worth purchasing at any price, and will prove a delusion in the end. Have we forgotten the arguments used all last winter in certain quarters against coercion, urging compromise and conciliation as the only method of saving the border States? And cannot we yet see that from first to last the rebellion has gained and the Government lost ground, as the result of all such milk and-water counsels?

But the present war upon treason is not a war for emancipation of slavery or the abolition of slavery. But it is a war against treason and rebellion of the most wicked and gigantic character. Alas we ask or expect in the progress of it is that the Government shall not spare slavery, or take particular pains to exercise any greater clemency in dealing with it than in dealing with any other phase of the rebellion. Let us strip the subject of Slavery of all the colors, either bright or dark, with which our past political affinities have clothed it, get rid of the idea that we must deal tenderly with traitors and shoot blank cartridges at them on account of their constitutional rights, and meet the rebellion in all its terrific proportions face to face. Then if there is a weak place in its armor, where a blow will tell most surely, and find its way most speedily to the life blood of treason, let the blow be sent home, no matter whether the heart of Slavery is pierced or not; and God nerve the arm that gives the stroke.

Sergeant Major Guinan who has been discharged from the service, and has returned home reports Capt. Burnham of the Fletcher Company under arrest for sleeping on his post, and Capt. Randall, and Lieutenant Phillips of the Capital Guards have been arrested for neglect of duty. The latter while the 2nd Regiment was out about a mile from camp on picket duty, was detailed by Col. Whiting to return to camp for rations for the Regiment. They procured the rations and despatched them to the Regiment, but understanding that the Regiment was to return that afternoon, they remained in camp themselves. How serious this offence is we do not know, but the punishment will no doubt be nothing but a fine, if it is so much as that.

Patriotism in Kentucky Banks.

Frankfort, Ky., Oct. 4. The Legislature took a recess until Nov. 27, after directing the Committee on Banks in the meanwhile to inquire into the management of the Bank of Louisville. The Bank of Kentucky promised its quota for the defense of Kentucky. The Bank of Louisville, whose quota was \$100,000, promised \$200,000. The Northern Bank promised \$25,000 more than its quota, and the Farmers' Bank promptly responded to its quota of the two millions required.

In discussing this question, Mayor Speed said the majority of the Louisville Bank Directors would gladly welcome Buckner, and open their vaults freely to him, and therefore he wished the management exposed. Senator Goddard said the Commercial Bank would promptly respond to any demand in this emergency.

Speed's resolution of inquiry into the condition and management of the Bank of Louisville passed both Houses.

PERSONAL.—ADM. GEN. H. HENRY BAXTER is in town stopping at the Pavilion. He is busily engaged in his duties relating to the organization, equipment, &c., of the Sixth Regiment.

INCIDENT OF THE BIG BETHEL FIGHT.—At the battle of Big Bethel, the captain of the Foxboro' company gave orders to his men when they saw the flash of the guns in the enemy's battery, to fall instantly on the ground, that the balls might pass over them. One of the Company not hearing the order, remained standing when the enemy fired, and seeing his comrades all fall to the ground, was heard to say to himself:—“My God, are they all killed? I guess I shall have to fight some.”

Soldiers Sending their Pay Home.

Knowing that the volunteers might, if they were so disposed, send some portion of their pay to their families, and noticing the suggestion of Quartermaster Pitkin that an agent might be of service in inducing the volunteers to do this, we the other day suggested the propriety of authorizing the chaplains of the several regiments to take this matter in charge, as they would have leisure to attend to it and their services would doubtless be acceptable to the regiment. *Walton's Journal* immediately suspected us of not appreciating the duties either of the chaplain or the agent, and suggested something about conforming to the “regulations” of the War Department, &c. We at once ceptoring our ignorance meekly asked that luminary for light, and for the “regulations.” The light has shined and here it is:

By the 12th section of “an act to authorize the employment of volunteers to aid in enforcing the laws,” &c., passed by Congress on the 22d of July, 1861, the Secretary of War was authorized and directed to introduce among the volunteer forces in the service of the United States the system of allotment tickets now used in the Navy, or some equivalent system, by which the family of the volunteer may draw such portions of his pay as he may request.”

That is the law; and we fancy it requires no great amount of power to draw the inference that the Secretary of War may, if he chooses, recognize agents appointed by the Governor of a State, and employ them in a matter which is committed to his discretion, so far as the mode of executing the law is concerned. It may be well enough perhaps to have state legislation; but it does not appear to be indispensable. As to the regulations adopted by the Secretary of War: we do not know what they are. We only know that regulations have been adopted. At least so said the *Washington Republican*, in an item which was copied by us some days since.

If any body is so blind as not to be able to see from the above that the *Journal* knows all about this business of agent, and understands precisely why a special agent is needed, and why a Chaplain can't do the business, and moreover is thoroughly posted in the “regulations,” we advise them to wait. The *Journal* will elucidate the subject further as soon as it gets the required information from the *Washington Republican*. At present the matter of agent is just where we supposed it was, and the Chaplains can do the business as well any one, unless in these times it is thought best to create an office to make a good place for somebody who wants one.

Camp Gregory Smith.

The Volunteers from Franklin County were organized this (Monday) morning, and made choice of the following officers:

Captain—Elisha L. Barney, Swanton.
1st Lieutenant—Lucius Green, Highgate.
2d — Alfred H. Keith, Sheldon.
SERGEANTS—Ira D. Hatch, Josiah Sturtevant, Joseph E. Averill, Geo. W. Burlison.
CORPORALS—Bradford S. Murphy, William Fletcher, William A. Green, Francis Priot, Guy C. Martin, Joseph R. Elliot, Watson Cheney, Goodsell Hicks.
Drummer—Albert L. Thompson.
Fifer—Louis Christian, Jr.
Wagoner—Jerry Arsine.

The Bristol Company of Volunteers from Addison County were organized, and elected

Captain—George Parker, Jr., Vergennes.
1st Lieutenant—Riley A. Bird, Bristol.
2d Lieutenant—Frank G. Butterfield, Middlebury.

SERGEANTS—Zira Elliott, Henry Prime, Argalus L. Squier, Albert A. Cram, Charles Huntington.
CORPORALS—Charles B. Strickland, Edward Barney, John E. Parker, Warren B. Dunshoe, John Wheeler, Sewell Sargent, Augustus L. Cox, Henry M. Parker.
Drummer—Daniel C. Quimby.
Wagoner—John Sheldon.

The Bradford Company from Orange County were organized, and elected

Captain—Monzo B. Hutchinson, Norwich.
1st Lieut.—La Marquis Tabbs, Topsham.
2d Lieut.—Bernard D. Farnan, Bradford.
SERGEANTS—John H. Wright, Geo. W. Flinders, Geo. E. Wood, Jason R. Bixby, Nelson Minard.
CORPORALS—Charles Hyde, William U. Jewell, George Messenger, Orrin Lufkin, Sumner H. Lincoln, Daniel Moulton, Thos. R. G. Wright, James C. Hibbard.
Drummer—John A. Colby.
Wagoner—David Holmes.

The following were chosen officers of the Orleans County Company:

Captain—Oscar A. Hale, North Troy.
1st Lieutenant—Geo. H. Phelps, Albany.
2d Lieutenant—Carlos W. Dwinell, Glover.
SERGEANTS—Chas. F. Bailey, M. Warner Davis, Wilbur Leach, Fred M. Kimball, Ira D. McClary.

CORPORALS—Jesse Conner, E. M. Nye, Martin L. Page, O. T. Stiles, Dan. Mason, Wm. R. Chismorn, Moses Abbott, Alex. Davis.

The Woodstock and Cavendish recruits were organized into a Company with the following officers:

Captain—J. C. Spalding, Cavendish.
1st Lieutenant—Geo. C. Randall, Woodstock.
2d Lieutenant—Hiram A. Kimball, Gaysville.

Chapmansville, Va., the scene of the recent engagement, is a small post village in Logan county, Va. Logan county is in the extreme Western portion of Virginia, the Tug Fork of the Big Sandy being the boundary line between it and the State of Kentucky. It is one of the largest, wildest and most sparsely inhabited counties in the State.

REGIMENTAL BANDS. It is said that the Secretary of War is becoming impatient with the expense of bands of music for the army, as it already amounts to a sum that will make this single item of expenditure \$4,000,000 a year.

BY TELEGRAPH TO THE FREEMAN.

8 O'CLOCK, A. M.

JERFESSON CITY, Oct. 5.

The steamer *Emelle* arrived here this evening with the wounded from Lexington. About one hundred rebels remained in Lexington Tuesday morning.

Mr. Prescott of Lexington who was in Mulligan's fortification during the siege, contradicts the report that General Sturgis had arrived there. He says he heard Price tell Rains and Parsons that now was the time to fight if they ever intended to, and heard them discussing the propriety of falling back to fortify Rosa Hill, in Johnson county, fifteen miles west of Warrensburg. He thinks their intention is to retreat to the Southwest or to Kansas. Since the surrender they had cut two cannon, which increased their field-pieces to fourteen; they also had two mortars. Col. Mulligan was taken South with Price.

The most of our army that have gone forward are really well appointed and are likely to do splendid fighting.

General McKinstry's division under Lieut. Col. Totten, moved West to-day, and will encamp eighteen miles out.

Captains Abel and Henry Star, who were captured a short time since while carrying dispatches from Gen. Fremont to Lane, and were confined in a dungeon fifty hours at West Port, came down on the *Emelle*, having escaped.

Gen. McKinstry is not transferred to Kentucky, but takes command of the 5th division of the Army of the West, and will start West tomorrow.

It is thought that Gen. Fremont will leave tomorrow, and his army are enthusiastic, confident and burning to meet the enemy.

Cols. Grover and White were left at Lexington, the former in a critical condition and the latter recovering.

The report of a large amount of loaded shell being dug up inside of Col. Mulligan's fortifications after the surrender is untrue.

New York, Oct. 5.—Special Washington dispatches state that Gen. Fremont will neither be suspended nor court martialled while his troops are in the face of the enemy, owing to the general outcry at the West against his removal.

Richmond papers say that the sick rebels have been removed from Manassas to Richmond, in anticipation of a battle, and that Jefferson Davis, in a speech to the troops on Wednesday, at Fairfax Court House, promised them they should soon be in Baltimore.

The *St. Louis Democrat*, in a late article shows why Gen. Lyon was not reinforced. It says that the entire forces under Fremont on the 2d of August, including Sigel's command of 4000, was 19,315, of which 12,550 were three months' men, whose term of enlistment was just expiring, leaving an actual force of 6750 in the entire Department. Of these Lyon had 2370, the balance, 4339, being Fremont's available force at the time Cairo, Bird's Point and Paducah were menaced by accumulating rebel forces. The President ordered Fremont to take all his available forces and reinforce those points for which service only 4126 men, including upwards of 900 St. Louis Home Guards, could be raised.

Rolla, the terminus of the southwest branch of the Pacific Railroad at this time, was the depot of a large and valuable quantity of stores and munitions, and was protected by the 7th Missouri regiment, Col. Stevenson, and the 13th Illinois, the former of which was ordered to march to Springfield, but in consequence of a total want of transportation it could not move.

The article also shows the distribution through out the State of the constantly disbanding three months men, and says after the battle Fremont was thoroughly exonerated from blame by the very men now loudest in condemning him.

New York, Oct. 5th., Volich Church was occupied this morning by 400 of our troops, a body of rebel cavalry leaving just in season to receive the fire of our front files, but succeeded in carrying off their wounded. It is sixteen miles beyond Alexandria, and a subsequent reconnaissance showed that there were no large bodies of troops this side of Occoquan Creek.

The *Times*'s dispatch says that the Auditor of the Treasury has been instructed to credit the accounts of deceased soldiers with \$100 bounty.

Capt. Souper arrived here this morning from Havana, and reports schooners *Zilda* and *W. H. Thorne*, under British colors, but belonging in the South, and schooner *Red Fox* of New Orleans under Mexican colors, are all loading at that port with muskets, lead and ammunition.

CAMP GREGORY SMITH.—In addition to the volunteers from the west side of the mountain, who came into camp Saturday afternoon, the mail train brought from the south, the Barton Company, Captain Hale, a full Company, with an informal organization, and about one hundred others from Cavendish and Chester.

The volunteers from Royalton and vicinity—a full Company—will arrive to-day. The work of organizing the volunteers into Companies will be accomplished as rapidly as possible.

Arrangements have been made with the Vermont Valley, the Rutland & Burlington and the Vt. Central Railroads, by which tickets to and from Montpelier will be sold for fare one way, good from the 8th to the 12th inst. The other railroads in the State will unquestionably come into the arrangement.

ATTENTION, SHARP SHOOTERS.—Capt. Stoughton of West Randolph, who has authority to recruit a Company of Sharpshooters for Col. Berdan's Regiment will be in Montpelier tomorrow (Tuesday) to recruit for his company. Let the Sharpshooters bring in their targets, and put down their names for this crack corps.

Gen. McClellan is about to organize a regiment of signal officers. A number of Lieutenants will be detached from every regiment, and formed in new styles, and thoroughly drilled in a new system of signals for night marches and outposts, to signal the movements of the enemy. None but educated, reliable and brave men will be taken for this service.

Very Latest by Telegraph.

4 O'CLOCK P. M.

NEW YORK, Oct. 7.

The *Tribune's* Washington dispatch says the President has arrived at no definite conclusion in regard to the Missouri question. He has, however, decided that all contracts and appointments for the Western Department be made in Washington through the ordinary channels. Part of the cargo of the steamer *Bernarda* is said to consist of seventy tons of gontowes, seven thousand Enfield rifles, ten rifled cannon, sixty thousand pairs of shoes, and a large quantity of blankets, clothing, quinine and medicine. Minister Adams remonstrated against her sailing, but the British foreign office would not interfere. At last accounts from Spain the steamer *Leoni* was waiting the result of the Cabinet conference in reference to the coalition against Mexico, and it is understood that she will bring out the ultimatum of Spain. Considerable pains is taken to impress the public with the idea that Spain is taking these steps on her own responsibility, but it is well enough understood that the English and French governments are to send their quota of men and means.

The *Herald's* dispatch says the President, Gen. McClellan, and others visited Gen. Banks to-day. Gen. McClellan was particularly gratified with his military experience with Banks, and has flattering expectations of him. It is understood that Gov. Sprague of Rhode Island will be appointed a Major General.

There was a serious riot in Hudson City, New Jersey, Saturday night between the members of the Barney Rifles and citizens. A number of persons were injured, including the Mayor of the city, who, in trying to quell the disturbance, was seriously stabbed in several places. The military are held in readiness by the city authorities for further outbreaks. An attack is expected on the camp. The origin of the trouble it is said was because the soldiers insulted the women, while out about the city.

FORTRESS MONROE, Oct. 6. The Steamer *S. R. Spaulding* has sailed for Hatteras Inlet with 500 troops. Gen. Wool returned here this morning, and will doubtless remain. Gen. Mansfield goes to Hatteras Inlet on the *S. R. Spaulding* to assume the chief command there. The Captain of the *Fanny* is severely censured, as it appears the rebel vessels were not seen until they were within four miles of the Propellor on Thursday morning.

DARNESTOWN, Oct. 5. Firing was repeatedly heard in the direction of Conrad's Ferry to-day. It is surmised that it was from our guns to protect the preparations which are said to be making there for crossing the river.

The first brigade, Gen. Abernethy, is now resting near Darnestown.

CAPTAIN BARTLETT'S Cavalry Company was to-day (Monday) mustered into the service of the United States. Col. PLATT was present and speaks highly in praise of the material of the company.

Signal Stations.

The correspondent of the *World* thus writes of the signal stations along the Potomac from Harper's Ferry to Chain Bridge:

Signal systems have been used in warfare from time immemorial, but I suppose the rebels gave our leaders the idea of employing them along this wild river line. At least we heard of flags and torches waving by day or night on yonder Virginia heights long ere any such means of exchanging comfort and warning were devised for our own benefit. It is only during the last month, in fact, that our occupation of this entire Maryland shore has been so connected and complete that we required or could perfect a chain of signals. Now we have pickets or sentinels stationed at every hundred yards from Great Falls to a point near Harper's Ferry; look-outs observe the country from a height and sections of artillery defend the dangerous fords.

Three signal stations have as yet fallen within my notice, viz: one at Seneca Mills, three miles or more from Darnestown, one at Darnestown itself, and one on the very summit of the noble “Sugarloaf” mountain. This solitary, beautiful elevation, six hundred feet in height, stands up and takes the morning” long before Aurora smiles upon thirty leagues of plain, forest, and valley, which the pine-girt mountain holds in fealty of prospect. The loyal watchmen on this height are twelve miles distant, as the eagle flies from the Darnestown station; yet so clear are the October skies of the delicious climate, that they can almost read with the naked eye messages flattered from the snow-white flag of the valley.

The Seneca Mills station, visited yesterday, though not so far above the general world, is romantic enough for fairer purposes than those for which it is established. Right among the pines which crest a rugged forest hill, a huge old chestnut tree rises clear and far above the lesser giants surrounding. Its trunk, if it were only hollow, would hold several Merlins under the spell of wren faces and of waving birds. For several ages longer also, I should think, than all the oak in the wild woods of Brocton, and therefore fitly strong for the lighthouse post to which sea-faring Yankees have devoted it. A ladder of untrimmed cedar poles and cross-bars, fifty feet in height, reaches to the first look-out platform—a room fashioned and floored among the lower limbs of the monster, and larger than the topmast of the largest man-of-war. Here are glasses permanently fixed to bear upon the stations at Darnestown and Sugarloaf. Still higher, another ladder reaches to a platform among the topmost branches, which have been trimmed off to give it breadth and vision range. The watchman, perched like a hawk upon this aerial footing (and the platform looks for all the world like the osprey's nests, which crown those mouldy old cedars at Long Branch), waves his messages by night and day, overlooks the rebel-haunted Virginia highlands, and when great storms come on, and the autumn gales howl and roar through all those desolate hills, clings with both hands to the lab of the chestnut top, and wonders was ever mariner or lighthouse keeper exposed to life like this.